

Serial No. 09/927,922Docket No. 0164-4015

The Applicant notes that he is contemplating amending each of the other independent claims in an analogous manner.

II. Remarks

With this response, the Applicant amends each of the independent claims in accordance with suggestions provided by the Examiner during the February 12th interview to include:

“... wherein said envelope is defined by areas of said envelope that are intact and interrupt the zone of weakness”.

In an informal facsimile communication sent February 14th, the Examiner brought EP 0 341 739 A2 (Greyvenstein) to the attention of the Applicant with the notation:

“Note column 5 lines 28-30. The connectors 55 appear to function like ‘stops’.”
(emphasis added)

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy extended in providing this facsimile communication, but respectfully submits that Greyvenstein and the cited art, taken individually or in combination, fail to disclose, teach, or suggest at least the above-quoted aspect of the claims.

For instance, the Applicant observes that “‘tacking’ connectors 55” (see col. 5 ln. 28), do not provide “areas ... that are intact and interrupt [a] zone of weakness” as stated by the claims, but instead provide intact areas that interrupt “elongated continuous cut[s]”:

“Where there is an elongated continuous cut, small tacking connectors may be provided to hold the material in a constant location.”
(see col. 2 ln. 21-23; emphasis added)

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"Referring to Fig. 8 ... [a] few small racking connectors 78
are provided at the cuts 74"
(See col. 5 ln. 55 – col. 6 ln. 9; emphasis added)

(See also Figs. 5 and 8)

The Applicant believes it clear that an "elongated continuous cut" is not at all
like "a zone of weakness" as stated by the claims (e.g., "a perforated line").

In view of at least the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully submits that all
claims are in condition for allowance.

III. Closing Comments

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for her courtesy in these proceedings, and
respectfully requests that a telephonic interview be granted to discuss this Informal Submission
with the below-indicated individual, or that this Informal Submission be otherwise discussed
with the below-indicated individual. The below-indicated individual may be reached at (212)
415-8746 .

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: February 24, 2004

By:

INFORMAL COMMUNICATION

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